

October 13, 1940

THE SPIRIT! WHO IS HE?

Daily Press launches campaign to discover identity of mysterious crime fighter. "Are you society's friend or foe?" asks editor Robert E. Grit.

Ever since his mysterious aid in the capture of Dr. Cobra, an escaped mad killer, the mystery man, known only as The Spirit, has secretly helped the police in many ways.

According to information collected by our reporters stationed at Police Headquarters, the solutions of most of the major crimes in our city were due to the efforts of The Spirit.

It was The Spirit who really smashed Tony Morgan's gambling chain. The fantastic attempt by this country's big gang leaders to rob the Sub-Treasury was frustrated by The Spirit. From reliable sources we learn that Yagor, the fiendish creator of the huge robot that ran amuck in our city not long ago, was believed to have been captured and placed in the hands of the police by The Spirit. The four Morger boys had the name of The Spirit on their lips before they were executed by the State.

On one hand he is obviously aiding society, yet on the other this mystery man is accused of causing the death of Eldas Thayer, a respected citizen, and is branded an outlaw by the Police.

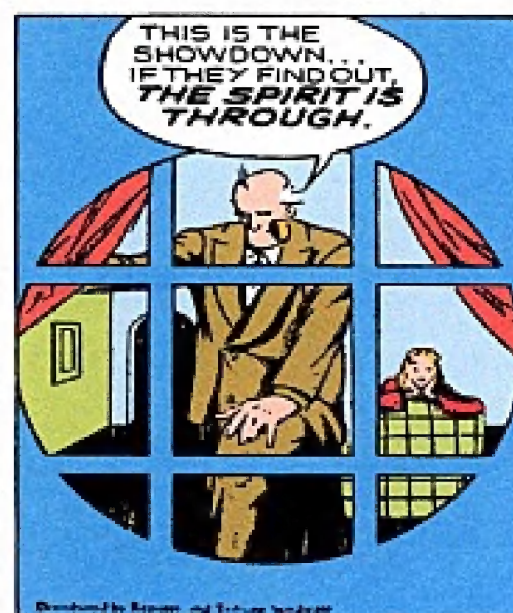
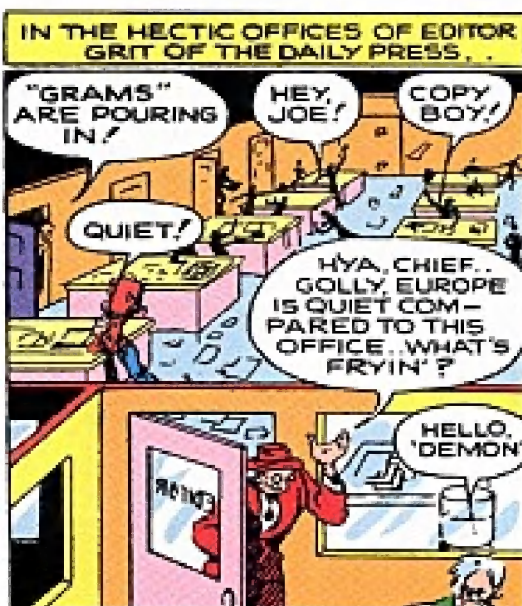
What is the explanation? Who is The Spirit?

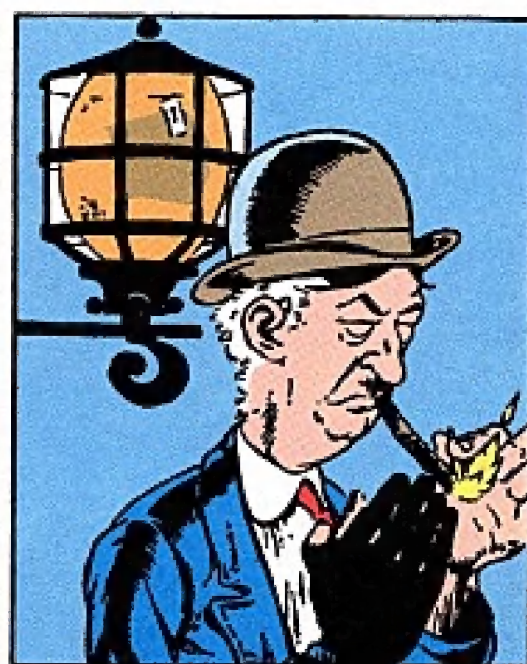
His description, offered by persons who have seen him, is: over six feet tall, wears a blue mask and blue suit. Any information leading to the identity of The Spirit will be appreciated and kept confidential. All correspondence should be addressed to the editor.

MAYOR AND CIVIC LEADERS APPROVE OF PRESS CAMPAIGN



In a letter addressed to this newspaper today, the Mayor, speaking for himself and the various civic societies, said that he approved highly of this new campaign to learn the identity of The Spirit. "His frequent escapes," he added, "have made a laughing stock of the Police Force and The Spirit's continued exploits lowers the prestige of our law enforcement bodies."





MEANWHILE AT WILDWOOD CEMETERY, THE REAL **SPiRiT** DISCUSSES NEW PLANS WITH HIS FAITHFUL SERVANT, **EBONY**

DID YO' READ D' PAPERS, **MIST' SPiRiT** BOSS?

YES, **EBONY**, AND I'M GOING TO CLEAR MYSELF OF THAT MURDER CHARGE ONCE AND FOR ALL!



AT "HAPPY" THE CORONER'S OFFICE, **THE SPiRiT** HOLDS A REVIEW OF THE DEATH OF **ELDAS THAYER**...



YOU SAY YOU FOUND HIM LYING FACE DOWN?? THAT'S ODD... A MAN USUALLY FALLS TOWARD HIS MURDERER... IT'S AN INSTINCTIVE MOTION.

YEAH, BY GOLLY YER RIGHT



AND NOW THAT I THINK OF IT, THE KNIFE WASN'T IMBEDDED VERY DEEP. BESIDES, I HEARD DR. CLAY SAY HE WAS GOING TO DIE OF HEART TROUBLE ANYHOW.

LINE UP THE EVIDENCE AND PRESENT IT TO THE MAYOR.



AT THE MAYOR'S OFFICE.

TELL ME, **DOLAN**, WHAT IS THIS CHARGE AGAINST HIM?

WELL, MR. MAYOR, WE FOUND OLD **ELDAS THAYER** IN HIS APARTMENT DYING... A KNIFE IN HIS BACK...



THE SPiRiT CAME TO MY OFFICE LATER AND ADMITTED COMING FROM **THAYER'S** HOUSE.



YES, YES, I KNOW, I WAS THERE AT THE TIME... WELL, UNLESS THERE'S SOME PRETTY STRONG EVIDENCE, IT CERTAINLY LOOKS BAD FOR **THE SPiRiT**!

YOU'RE TELLING ME!



THE HEAD-QUARTERS OF "WAXY" MORGAN, NOTORIOUS GANG LEADER...

BOY! THIS IS THE BIGGEST BREAK WE GOT IN YEARS!

Y' MEAN THAT HEADLINE ABOUT THE SPIRIT?

YEAH... IT'S A SET-UP! ALL WE GOTTA DO EVERY TIME WE PULL A JOB IS LEAVE A NOTE SAYIN' **THE SPIRIT** DID IT!

BUT, SUPPOSE THE COPS STOP LOOKIN' FOR HIM?

I'LL SEE THAT THEY WON'T... I'M GONNA KILL COMMISSIONER DOLAN. HAHA! THAT IS, **THE SPIRIT** WILL!

MEANWHILE, TO MAKE MATTERS MORE COMPLICATED... WE FIND FINNEGAN AND DEMON ENTERING WILDWOOD CEMETERY.....

ARE Y' SURE Y' HEARD DOLAN SAY **THE SPIRIT** HIDES OUT HERE?

UGH.

...B. B. BATTLEFIELDS NEVER S. SCARE ME AS MUCH AS C. CEMETERIES.. THERE'S SOMETHING.. HEY, KID!

WHO, ME? YASSUH!

NOW, QUIT STALLIN', I KNOW **THE SPIRIT** LIVES HERE.. WHO IS HE?

THE SPIRIT? ER.. AH... HE AM DAID! HE AM A REAL GHOST **SPIRIT!**

G. GHOST ???!

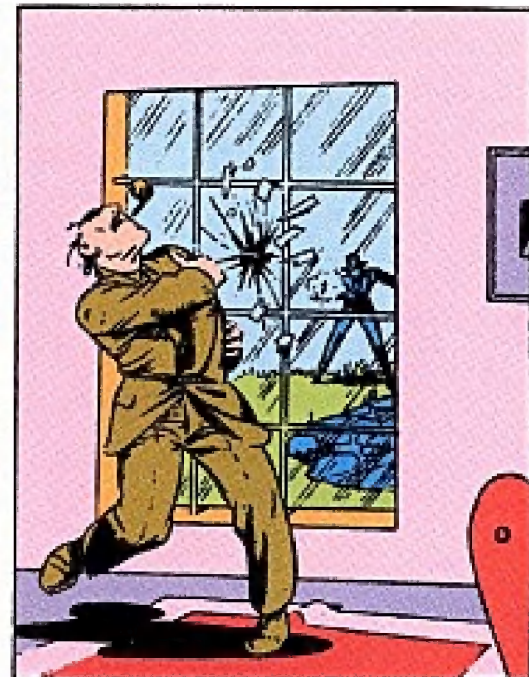
YASSUH! HE AM A **REAL SPIRIT** AN' EVERY NIGHT JES' ABOUT DIS TIME, HE COME THROUGH DAT DOOR AN' IN HIS GHOSTLY VOICE, HE SAY... "EBONY, WHAT HAPPEN WHILE AH WAS GONE"?

EBONY, WHAT HAPPENED WHILE I WAS GONE?

IT'S HIM!

?!

ONE SIDE, SLOW POKE, LEMME PASS!



AT MERCY HOSPITAL.



AT GANG HEADQUARTERS.....



LATER, AT THE CORONER'S OFFICE.



